

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

Claims 11-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-32 and 34-37 are pending. Claims 1-10, 15, 20, 24, 28 and 33 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 11-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-32 and 34-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,913,063 to McGurrin et al. ("McGurrin"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 11 recites a method for deriving a class prior to run-time, comprising making an independent copy of an entire tree of the class, the class including an instance of a generic attribute class and an instance of a generic method class, and the instance of the generic method class including an instance of a generic parameter class. Independent Claim 29 recites a computer system configured to implement a method for deriving a class prior to run-time, comprising means for making an independent copy of an entire tree of the class, the class including an instance of a generic attribute class and an instance of a generic method class, and the instance of the generic method class including an instance of a generic parameter class. These features are apparently not disclosed or suggested by McGurrin.

For example, the disclosure of McGurrin relied upon in the Office Action teaches that in McGurrin's method, a FORM FRAME2 (530) is created as a subclass of FORM FRAME1 (512). See McGurrin, col. 9, lines 28-31; Fig. 6. Thus, according to McGurrin:

"[a]s a subclass of object class FORM FRAME 1 (512), object class FORM FRAME2 (530) automatically and instantly inherits all of the attributes of object class FORM FRAME1 (512). Consequently, any changes to the attributes of the object class FORM FRAME 1 (512) are automatically propagated to object class FORM FRAME2 (530)."

McGurrin, col. 9, lines 33-38 (underlines added).

Thus, McGurrin's object class FORM FRAME2 (530) that is a subclass of object class FORM FRAME1 (512), in which "any changes to the attributes of the object class FORM FRAME 1 (512) are automatically propagated to object class FORM FRAME2 (530)," clearly are not independent copies of the entire tree of a class as recited in Claims 11 and 29.

Moreover, Independent Claims 11 and 29 recite that an instance of a generic attribute class and an instance of a generic method class are included in the copy of the entire tree of the class with the instance of the generic method class including an instance of a generic parameter class. These features are apparently not taught or suggested by McGurrin. For example, McGurrin does not appear to teach or suggest any comparable feature corresponding to Applicants' generic attribute class, generic method class, and generic parameter class as recited in Claims 11 and 29.

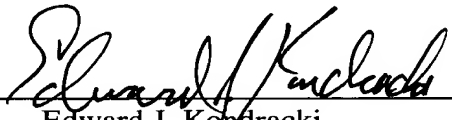
Therefore, for at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn and the case passed to issuance forthwith.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T2147-906522) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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